

HARRIS COUNTY SYSTEMS OF HOPE
Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 16, 2011
6300 Chimney Rock Road
Houston, TX 77081

Attendees:

Board Members and Alternates Present:

Taren Bates	Renatta Kost	Barbara Sewell
Alma Bell	Joseph Le	Stephen Williams
Joseph Bourne	Curtis Mooney	
Julie Bourne	Charissa Nealey	
Eileene Chappelle	Beverly Pettway	
George Ford	Diana Quintana	
Carolyn Hamilton	Mia Robinson	
Rebecca Johansson	Raquel Runge	

Systems of Hope Staff Present:

Larry Brown	Lauren Moore
Nichole Christoph	Stephanie Pecora
Lareatha Clay	Pam Schaffer
Tammy Foster	
Randy Joiner	

Other Attendees:

Brian Baxendale	Michael Santana
Rebecca DeCamara	Elisia Velasquez
Jinneh Dyson	
Magno Guillen	
Jason Lau	

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Johansson called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Members of the Board and guests introduced themselves around the room.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Johansson asked the group to review the minutes of the January 2011 meeting and note corrections. A motion was made by Ms. Chappelle to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Bourne seconded the motion which was carried without exception.

III. Financial Report

Mr. Baxendale presented a year six budget report for the period ending February 28, 2011. To date the program has expended 44% of the budget. Mr. Baxendale noted that the program is currently over budget by \$23,029.00 which he expects will even out now that the program had a reduction in staff. Wraparound spending for the year to date is \$39,879.32 most of which was spent on mentoring. The remaining balance for wraparound spending is \$3,766.68. Mr. Joiner added that this line item is where

transportation assistance for youth and families is paid. The program needs to work to see how it can keep youth and families involved when these funds run out. This topic will be placed on the next Federation of Families meeting agenda and Mr. Joiner expects that a recommendation will be presented at the next board meeting.

IV. Project Director Report

Mr. Joiner reported on various activities since the last meeting. He and Ms. Johansson attended a HCPS Fund Board meeting and presented information on SOH and systems of care. As a result, Ms. Johansson was invited to attend future meetings as a liaison for SOH. Mr. Joiner recognized Ms. Johansson for doing such a good presentation and stated that the board was very impressed.

SOH has submitted a letter of intent in hopes of receiving permission to submit a RFP to the Hogg Foundation. The letter is requesting \$250,000 per year for two years. Another proposal will be submitted to the Hospital District for \$150,000 for two years. This request will fund continuation of family involvement and work on a natural support resource directory for families and service providers. A third proposal for the Meadows Foundation is near completion requesting approximately \$550,000 over a three year period. Mr. Joiner thanked Ms. Clay, Ms. Foster and Ms. Savannah for their work on these proposals.

Staff members from SOH and members of Houston Federation of Families For Children's Mental Health (HFFCMH) recently attended a Cultural Diversity Fair at Murworth on March 10, 2011. The event was well attended and provided an opportunity to encourage systems change.

The National Site Evaluation team will conduct a site visit on April 13-15, 2011. Many of the board members will be a part of this site visit and involved in the interview process. Mr. Joiner thanked Ms. Foster for her work to coordinate the schedule.

Mr. Joiner reported that he received a phone call from Ms. Herman, the SAMHSA grant coordinator. Ms. Herman was very responsive to the programs needs and requests. She has agreed to extend the deadline if the need for a no cost extension exists. She also stated that SAMHSA would not hold the program to the cooperative agreement as it relates to positions. Ms. Herman was complimentary of the board and Harris County for the ability to sustain components in this economic climate.

Finally, Mr. Joiner updated the board regarding staff reorganization. Three SOH staff, Mr. Brown, Ms. Freeman and Ms. Glasper, has been transferred to TRIAD as part of the JP Court wraparound project funded by the JP Case Management fund. TRIAD will allow Mr. Brown to continue some of his duties as CLC Coordinator.

V. Work Group Reports

- a) CLC-Mr. Brown reported that a policy and protocol for translation and interpretations services is nearly complete. He hopes to have it ready for board approval at the next meeting. The workgroup is hopeful that the partner agencies will adopt the policy and protocol within their agencies as well.

- b) CQI-Ms. Chappelle reported that all three caregiver satisfaction surveys have been trended. The program has a 75.8% approval rating. The trending covered current and discharged clients from 11/2009 to 2/2011 with a sample of 13-16 people. Areas of concerns were noted and Ms. Chappelle stated that some of the lower scores could be attributed to the terminology that was used. Areas of improvement were noted along with a recommendation from CQI to the full board.

The workgroup presented a recommendation requesting that a formal acknowledgement in the form of a participatory agreement between stakeholders/partners, be developed to sustain and promote systems of care values and principles throughout the county. Mr. Joiner presented the full recommendation which highlighted areas that the grant has influenced and ways to continue the valuable work that has begun. Mr. Joiner stated that this recommendation will be presented for a vote at the next meeting. Ms. Bourne added that family ran organizations would like to continue their collaboration with the partners as well.

Ms. Johansson added that the collaboration that has taken shape over the past year is appreciated by the workgroup. She feels much of this is due to Mr. Joiner's responsiveness to recommendations made by the group.

- c) Evaluation-Dr. Runge reported that as of April 1, 2011 the evaluation team will no longer collect base line data or service cost data. They will continue to collect follow up data.

Mr. Lau provided a presentation on youth anxiety over time. Information gathered indicates that overall total anxiety scores for the youth have decreased over time. Improvement is shown between baseline and follow-up and outcomes suggest that youth maintain lower scores after discharge.

- d) Fiscal-Ms. Pettway reported that the last workgroup meeting was brief and that the group went over the same budget information presented in Mr. Baxendale's report. Ms. Pettway stated that she felt that there may be funds to carry over if the program does not incur unemployment expenses. The accounting department will work to ensure that all funds are expended.
- e) Social Marketing-Ms. Moore reported that Children's Mental Health Awareness day is May 3, 2011 and the workgroup is planning an event to mark the date. Previously the group had planned to have the event at the Children's Museum however, that venue is not available. Plans are now being made to have it at a multi-service center in the Kashmere area. Ms. Moore also reported that SOH has a team that will be participating in the NAMI Walks event on May 14, 2011. Information on the walk is in the board packet and an invitation to those that would like to walk with the SOH team was extended.

- f) Youth- Ms. Bates and Mr. Bourne provided an update on recent YAC activity. Several members of the YAC are working with Social Marketing on the Children's Mental Health Awareness Day event by producing a spoken word video. The YAC members have also been very active with the YEA group attending meetings and collaborating with youth from other groups throughout the city.

VI. Sustainability Component Reports:

- a) SOC Principles/Care Coordination-Dr. Schaffer reported that the Systems Change workgroup had a lively meeting and agreed to look at the mapping work that was done by the TRIAD Associates. It is hoped that the group will learn more about gaps in services when they look back at the mapping. The group also agreed to allow the CQI workgroup to present a recommendation to the governing board regarding the participatory agreement.
- b) Planning and Decision Making "Structure"-Mr. Ford recognized Ms. Johansson for the outstanding job she did on her presentation to the HCPS Fund Board and provided background information on the board. SOH is able to utilize the 501 (c) 3 status that the board has to secure future funding. Mr. Ford also stated that Mr. Joiner has been working closely with the TRIAD Associates and their role in the future of SOH. Mr. Ford added that he feels if the wrap around project in the JP Courts is successful it may afford the opportunity to add more staff.
- c) Information and Education- Ms. Sewell reported that much work has been done with the development of parent connectors in the community. Feedback from those that have received help has been very positive and referrals have been steady. Referrals in the Sunnyside area however, have been slower. The group is working to determine what kind of support the community wants and needs and will be changing their approach. Ms. Sewell encouraged the board to make referrals to HFFCMH families that have youth with educational needs and behavioral problems.

Ms. Sewell also reported that she has been working with families that have transitioned out of SOH to develop parent connectors. This project is working out well.

- d) Youth Groups/Youth Empowerment-Mr. Williams reported that the City of Houston is also facing budget issues and expects to receive a 27% reduction. This will greatly impact services provided by the city. However, Mr. Guillen is funded through a grant for another year and a half.

Mr. Guillen reported that he and Ms. Savannah have been working with the 45-60 youth in the YEA group on the 40 Developmental Assets and Healthy Adolescent Initiative. Youth from all over the community have been connecting with each other and working on projects to promote wellness in the community.

Mr. Guillen reported that three youth liaisons from partner agencies have been identified. The remaining partners are working to identify the appropriate person

for their agency. Ms. Sewell added that each agency should have youth and family at every table and every level. Mr. Guillen thanked the partner agencies for their assistance.

VII. Program Services Report

Dr. Schaffer presented program statistics for the months of January and February 2011 and pointed out that nearly all of the SOH cases have been transitioned. During the month of February the program has seen an increase in cases in the Kashmere and Sunnyside areas. The Kashmere SWAP is currently working with a total of 36 youth in 33 families. The Sunnyside area is working with 9 youth in 7 families. Dr. Schaffer expects these numbers to increase to full capacity.

VIII. Announcements

Ms. Sewell announced that Ms. Cord is planning to attend Capital Day with NAMI.

Mr. Le announced that Asian American Families Services will host a conference at HCC on March 25, 2011 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm. The conference title is "Beyond the Melting Pot".

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.